

UB Law Forum

Volume 1
Number 1 *Summer 1985*

Article 7

7-1-1985

Alumni Newsmakers

UB Law Forum

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub_law_forum

Recommended Citation

UB Law Forum (1985) "Alumni Newsmakers," *UB Law Forum*: Vol. 1 : No. 1 , Article 7.
Available at: https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub_law_forum/vol1/iss1/7

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Alumni Publications at Digital Commons @ University at Buffalo School of Law. It has been accepted for inclusion in UB Law Forum by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ University at Buffalo School of Law. For more information, please contact lawscholar@buffalo.edu.

ALUMNI NEWSMAKERS

Woman Pioneer Wins N.Y. Bar Post



Maryann S. Freedman

Maryann S. Freedman ('58) has been reelected to her second one-year term as Secretary of the New York State Bar Association. She is the first woman to hold any of the four major statewide offices of the bar association.

Freedman, who has worked at the New York State Supreme Court as confidential law clerk to Supreme Court Justice William J. Ostrowski since 1977, has been a woman pioneer before.

She was the first woman director (1974-1977) and the first woman president (1981-1982) of the Erie County Bar Association, thereby becoming the first woman president of any major bar association in New York State.

And upon graduating from law school, she was the first woman associate at Saperston, McNaughton & Saperston (predecessor to Saperston, Day, Lustig, Gallick, Kirschner & Gaglione). She also was the first wom-

an to be a director and treasurer of the Erie County Bar Foundation and the first woman president of the Erie County Aid to Indigent Prisoners Society, Inc.

A director of the UB Law Alumni Association and a member of the search committee for a new Law School dean, Freedman has been involved in many professional and community organizations. She was elected a member-at-large to the executive committee of the N.Y. State Bar Association three years ago and has served as chair of numerous Erie County Bar Association committees, including family law, budget and finance, and legislation.

Freedman, who was in private practice from 1961 to 1975, was also a confidential legal research assistant to Buffalo City Court, and an assistant attorney general of the State of New York.

Class of '51 Holds Unofficial Record



Class of 1951 Reunion

Members of the class of 1951 claim to hold the record for the most annual get-togethers, having missed only a few years since graduation.

Any class wishing to challenge this record should contact the alumni office for information and help in setting up a class reunion of its own.

The members of the class of 1951 who are pictured at a recent reunion at Judge Francis Pritchard's Grand Island home are (left to right) Harvey Rogers, Robert Leisner, Richard Blewett, Edward Kinney, Jack Gaylord, Hon. Joseph Figliola, Kenneth Hodossy, George Kassman, Hon. Joseph

McNamara, James McMahon, David Buch, Edward Schwendler, Eugene Martin, Thomas Troy, William Pfalzer, Luke Owens, Hon. John Dillon, Raymond Wylegala, Hon. Francis Pritchard and Hon. Michael Dillon.

ALUMNI NEWSMAKERS

Top Grad To Clerk For U.S. Supreme Court

During the last five years, Virginia A. Seitz ('85) has walked the halls of Oxford University, one of the most venerated institutions of higher learning in the world, and walked among the labor camps of migrant farm workers, whom she calls the "very bottom of the American labor barrel."

She will take these vastly different experiences and her UB law education to the United States Supreme Court next year when she clerks for Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan Jr.

Seitz, who was given the 1985 Max Koren Award for the outstanding graduating student, will serve as law clerk for the Honorable Harry T. Edwards of the D.C. Court of Appeals for one year before beginning her clerkship for Justice Brennan in July, 1986.

At the law school Seitz was interested in labor law, and at the encouragement of professors Alfred Konefsky and James Atleson, published an article in the American Journal of Legal History about the supervisory exemption to the National Labor Relations Act. She is especially interested in the migrant farm worker labor force and has worked as a field worker and staff attorney for the Migrant Legal Action Program.

A graduate of Duke University, Seitz became interested in social issues when she went to Oxford University in 1980 as a Rhodes Scholar. While studying 19th and 20th century European and Middle East politics, she became acutely aware of the "politics" of being a woman in England.

"The English are less advanced than Americans in their attitudes toward women," she said. "That's when I became interested in becoming a lawyer so that I could become involved in impact litigation that will affect social change."

She will certainly have that opportunity next year at the Supreme Court.



Virginia A. Seitz



Paul L. Friedman

Friedman To Head D.C. Bar

Paul L. Friedman ('68), a partner at White & Case, was elected president-elect of the District of Columbia Bar. He will become president of the 43,000-member association, the third largest in the country, in 1986.

A graduate of Cornell University, Friedman has been in Washington, D.C., since graduating from law school. He was a law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge Aubrey E. Robinson Jr. and to Judge Roger Robb of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He also served as assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia from 1970 to 1974 and as assistant to the solicitor general of the United States from 1974-1976.

Friedman, who has been active in the District of Columbia Bar since 1974, was chairman of a study committee that offered an exhaustive review of the bar's disciplinary system in 1982. The committee recommended the disciplinary process be opened up and hearings made public. Fifty percent of the bar's dues goes to running the disciplinary system.

In his new position, Friedman would like to modify to some extent

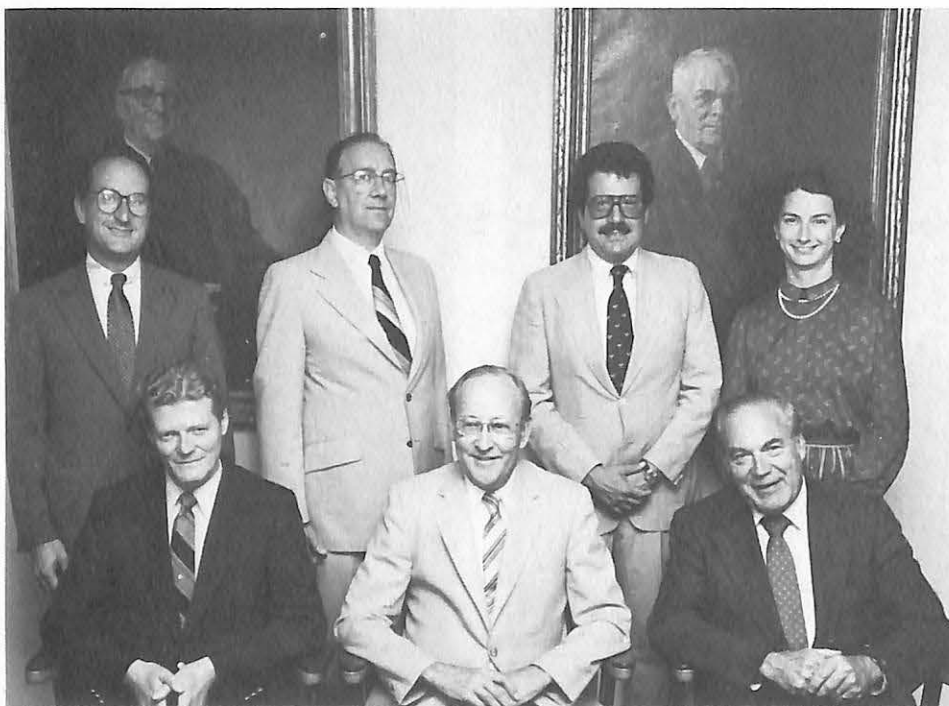
the current restrictions on the use of the bar's mandatory dues.

"A referendum five years ago prohibited the use of mandatory dues for some bar activities, such as continuing legal education programs and lawyer referral services for the indigent," he explained. "An organized bar has an obligation to provide such services and voluntary contributions have not been sufficient to do this."

Noting the great diversity of the D.C. Bar, Friedman expects to develop ways to better serve public sector members and work more effectively with the many voluntary bar groups in the area. He also will pursue the goals of the long range planning committee, of which he was the recent chairman, to raise enough money for a bar building and library.

Friedman, who was an associate editor of the Buffalo Law Review, is active also in the American Bar Association. In addition, he currently is chairman of the grievance committee, U.S. District Court, and a member of the advisory committee on procedures of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

ALUMNI NEWSMAKERS



Bar Association of Erie County Officers: (standing l-r) Directors Robert P. Fine, Nicholas Longo, Peter Battaglia and Michele O. Heffernan; (seated l-r) George M. Zimmermann, president-elect; Richard N. Blewett, president; Wells E. Knibloe, treasurer.

Alumni Elected To Local Bar Positions

George Zimmermann ('49), a partner with Albrecht, Maguire, Heffern & Gregg and an adjunct UB law professor, was elected vice-president (president-elect) of the Bar Association of Erie County. He will succeed the current president, Richard N. Blewett ('51), as leader of the local bar in June, 1986.

Zimmermann is a past president of the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo and the Lawyer's Club of Buffalo and past chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Libraries. An adjunct professor of law at UB, Zimmermann received a 1985 Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Law Alumni Association.

Blewett, who has been with the law firm of Cohen, Lombardo, Blewett, Fisher, Spandau & Nosek for 34 years,

has served as president of the Legal Aid Bureau and the Canisius College Alumni Association.

Elected treasurer of the Bar was Wells E. Knibloe ('50), a member of the law firm of Saperston, Day, Lustig, Gallick, Kirschner & Gaglione for 26 years. Knibloe is a past president of both the UB General Alumni Board and the UB Arts and Science Alumni. He also is an active member of the Rotary Club and a 25-year member of the Buffalo Council on World Affairs.

The new directors of the Bar also are all UB law alumni. They are Robert P. Fine ('68) of Hurwitz & Fine; Nicholas J. Longo ('58) of Heimerl, Stiller, Keenan & Longo; Peter J. Battaglia ('72) of Williams, Stevens, McCarville & Frizzell; and Michele O. Heffernan ('74) of Jaeckle, Fleischmann & Mugel.

'Young Lawyer of the Year'

For his work as coordinator of two Long Island pro bono programs (sponsored by the bar associations in Suffolk and Nassau counties), Thomas Maligno ('77) has won the 1985 "Young Lawyer of the Year" award of the New York State Bar Association.

Maligno started the pro bono programs from scratch two years ago and now supervises more than 1,000 legal matters annually that are resolved without fee by some 600 attorneys. He also handles hundreds of cases personally each year, as he did as a Legal Services Program staff attorney for the six years between graduating from law school and assuming his current position.

Maligno, who receives calls about his program from bar associations all over the county, continues to expand the services to involve psychologists, financial analysts and medical doctors. He hopes in the near future to talk to law students as part of the legal ethics courses about the personal rewards of pro bono work.

"Lawyers get something back when they give of their time," he says. "It's a change of pace. One corporate attorney recently told me his pro bono work really recharged his battery."

